SINGLE TAX RULE WALLOPED AGAIN

House, 42 to 12, Is in Favor of Repealing Amendment as Adopted in November.

OTHER BLOWS ALSO DEALT

Resolutions Restoring Taxation Power to Legislature and Giving Initiative Right to People Are Approved — Fight Weak.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Anti-single tax sentiment in the House today outweighed the demand that the verdict of the people, as expressed through the initiative should not be disturbed. As a result, resolutions proposing constitutional amendments restoring to the Legislature the power to regulate taxation, repealing the single tax amendment adopted by the people last November and giving to the Legislature and the people the right to propose under the initiative laws for the just and uniform taxation of property, were passed by the House.

The proposed amendments will be submitted to the people in the general election in November, 1912. The vote on the anti-single tax amendment was 42 to 12.

First of the resolutions coming before the House, was the one annulling the single-tax amendment of the constitution approved by the people in the last election.

Fouts Against Change.

Disclaiming that he was a convert to the single tax and saying that he did not understand the system, Fouts attacked the resolution which, he said, was an unwarranted attack on a constitutional amendment ratified by the people. He justified his position by saying that he believed in local self-government and the right of each county to regulate its own method of taxation, under which the owners of extensive timber holdings would be required to pay increased taxes.

"Do you know the proportion of the total tax that is paid by the lumber industry in the timbered counties of the state?" inquired Bryant, of Multnomah.

"I cannot say that I do," replied Fouts.

"It is between 70 and 80 per cent," answered Bryant.

"Well, they should be required to pay the whole tax," was Fouts' rejoinder.

Legislative Power Upheld.

Buchanan argued that the single-tax amendment now on the statute books of the state was unconstitutional, being in conflict with the United States Constitution. He argued that to deprive the Legislature of the power of enacting legislation was a serious restriction of the duties properly belonging to that body. He questioned the propriety of encouraging a further deprivation of the functions of the Legislature.

McKinney, the farmer member of the House from Baker, made a strong talk in support of the resolution, charging that the constitutional amendment adopted in November in effect did away with equal and uniform taxation. Under that resolution each county was given the right to prescribe its own form of taxation. Under the system proposed in that amendment, asserted McKinney, the tax would be placed on land, throwing the burden on the farmer who already was overtaxed. He concluded by making the allegation that the single-tax amendment was adopted entirely through a misunderstanding of its provisions.

42 to 12 Is Vote.

The vote by which the anti-single-tax amendment was adopted, and the vote on the other resolutions was substantially the same, follows:

Ayes—Abrams, Ambrose, Beals, Belknap, Belland, Bigelow, Bonebrake, Brooke, Bryant, Buchanan, Buckley, Chambers, Chapman, Chatten, Church, Clemens, Cole, Collins, Cushman, Derby, Eaton, Graves, Hollis, Huntington, Johnson, Jones, Leinenweber, Mahoney, Mariner, McKinney, Miller, of Columbia; Miller, of Linn; Neuner, Peterson, Powell, Rackleff, Reynolds, Shaw, Simpson, Smith, Sutton and Tigard; 42.

Nays—Abbott, Amme, Brownhill, Carter, Clyde, Cottel, Fouts, Gill, Libby, Magone, Peirce and Speaker Rusk; 12.

SENATE GRINDS BIG GRIST

Many House Bills Find Favor, Others Are Postponed.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—The Senate today passed bills as follows:

H. B. 245, by Committee on Insurance—Increasing expense money for Insurance Commissioner.

H. B. 172, by Bryant—Authorizing County Courts to appropriate money for agricultural fairs.

H. B. 146, by Committee on Insurance—Providing for collecting license from certain companies.

H. B. 136, by Brooke—Fixing salary of Prosecuting Attorney in the Tenth district.

H. B. 144, by Committee on Insurance—For licensing of fraternal benefit societies.

H. B. 22, by Powell—Relating to payment of deposits in trust.

H. B. 119, by Mann—For extermination of certain weeds.

H. B. 99, by Buchanan—Providing funds for printing of G. A. R. reports.

H. B. 15, by Graves—Appropriating money for Tamhill Fair Association.

H. B. 160, by Peirce—Fixing the salary of Assessor of Curry County.

H. B. 42, by Ambrose—Allowing Multnomah County to levy special tax for library purposes.

H. B. 13, by Clemens—Reciting conditions in insurance policies.

H. B. 24, by Clemens—Placing casualty, marine and plate glass companies under supervision of Insurance Commissioner.

H. B. 184, by Cole—Appropriating money for the Oregon Humane Society.

H. B. 237, by Umatilla and Morrow delegations—Authorizing County Courts to appropriate $150 annually to poultry shows.

H. B. 229, by Beals—Providing for annexation of new territory to ports.

H. B. 72, by Abrams—Providing for a continuing appropriation of $25,000 annually for military purposes.

H. B. 134, by Amme—Providing that employes must secure consent of employers before assigning wages to secure loan less than $300.

H. B. 279, by Derby—Relating to incorporated cities and towns.

H. B. 289, by Peirce—Repealing protection of salt water crabs in Coos County.

H. B. 150, by Ambrose—Relating to arrangement of names on primary ballot.

S. B. 302, by Carson—Regulating cost of feeding prisoners in county jails.

H. B. 54, by Fouts—Relating to trout hatcheries.

H. B. 261, by Westerlund—Relating to killing of deer.

S. B. 52, by Buchanan—Providing for assistants in office of Attorney-General.

OREGON CITY MAY EXPAND

Dimick's Annexation Plan Passes Senate, Reconsideration Off.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special)—Through the enactment by the Legislature of Senate bill 20, by Dimick, and the time for its reconsideration expiring, an important amendment is made to the law governing the annexation by municipal corporations of additional territory. The bill provides that on petition of 20 per cent of the voters of an existing municipal corporation a special election shall be held to determine whether proposed additional territory shall be taken into the corporate limits.

While the bill is general in its application, it is intended primarily to meet with a condition in Oregon City, the home town of Senator Dimick. Attempts have been made without success to bring into the city limits valuable property belonging to the paper mills and the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company just outside of the present boundaries of the city. By the provisions of the Dimick bill the Oregon City people expect to be able to extend their city limits sufficiently to take in corporation property worth probably $5,000,000.

PORTLAND GIVEN JUSTICE

Opposition of Bigelow to Fouts Vigorous but Ineffective.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Over the vigorous but ineffective opposition of Bigelow, who was the only member of the Multnomah County delegation to oppose the measure, the House today passed Fouts' bill providing an additional Justice of the Peace for Portland. There were only 11 votes against the bill, to which was conveniently attached an emergency clause.

Fouts championed the bill and the additional justice, explaining that such an increase in the Justice Court was indispensable. Under the plan of the bill the present court is to be reorganized and one justice assigned to the trial of all criminal cases, insuring thereby, said Fouts, a speedy trial of all persons against whom criminal charges may be preferred.

Refuting the argument of Fouts, Bigelow made the statement that he had the word of the present justices to the effect that they were not to exceed 12 days behind in their work and for that reason he could not see the need for more justices. In addition to Bigelow, the following Representatives voted against the bill: Brownhill, Chambers, Chapman, Derby, Graves, Miller, of Linn; Shaw, Simpson, Tigard, and Speaker Rusk. The latter objected to the bill because of the emergency clause.

12 TO DRAFT TAX LAWS

SENATE WANTS COMMITTEE TO PLAN TEST.

Dozen to Act With Commissioners in Framing Measures to Be Put Before People.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Tax measures for submission to the people are to be prepared by a legislative committee of 12, acting in conjunction with the State oBard of Tax Commissioners, according to a House joint resolution, which passed the Senate this afternoon.

This is considered to be one of the most important of the resolutions yet adopted at the session. Following is an excerpt from the resolution, showing the duties of this legislative committee:

That a committee of seven from the House and five from the Senate be appointed to act in conjunction with the Board of State Tax Commissioners in the preparation of any measure or measures relating to taxation or exemption, which said committee and Board of State Tax Commissioners, acting jointly, may deem it proper to submit to the people for their approval or rejection at the regular general election of 1912.

That said committee and Board of State Tax Commissioners, acting jointly, shall prepare recommendations or arguments for or against any measure or measures relating to taxation or exemption which may be submitted to the people of the state or of any county for approval or rejection at said regular general election, and shall take such action as many appear proper in presenting such recommendations or arguments for the consideration of the people of the state or of any county.

Engineers Oppose Bill.

A protest against substitute House bill No. 171 has been sent to Governor West and the members of the Oregon Legislature by William R. Kind, vice-president of the Oregon Society of Engineers, and G. L. Bliven, secretary. The bill amends the state water statute and provides for the creation of a board of control, all of the members of which will be lawyers. This, say the engineers, gives the board's duties a broad judicial aspect. The engineers feel that the results achieved under the present system warrant them in asking that it be continued.

RUSK FIGHTS FOR FUTURE CAMPAIGN

Bill Passes House to Lay Out Third Congressional District.

CONTEST SHORT; ACTIVE

Speaker, Who Is Said to Have Aspirations for Congress, Routed When Re-reference Plan Is Defeated by 23-27 Vote.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Mahoney's bill, constituting Multnomah County, unattached, as the Third Congressional District, passed the House today 33 to 22, following a short but active fight to have the bill re-referred to the special committee on reapportionment for further consideration.

In this attempted move, Speaker Rusk took an active hand on the floor of the House but the Speaker and his forces were routed by a vote of 23 to 27 by which the re-reference was defeated.

Rusk to Run for Congress?

Speaker Rusk's activity in the consideration of this bill, is explained from the fact that there is an undisputed report that he expects to be a candidate for Congress two years from now. Naturally he would prefer to run for the office in a district of which Multnomah forms a part, as his associations during the session have been decidedly friendly with the Multnomah delegation and he has in other ways been very considerate of the county with a third of the voting population of the state. With such men as Thompson, McKinney, Brooke and Mahoney, all of whom are said to have their eyes on the lower house of Congress, Rusk would have a decidedly lively scramble for the nomination in the Second Congressional District, as it will be constituted under the provisions of the Mahoney bill, which restricts that district to those counties east of the Cascades, of which Wallowa, Rusk's home county, is one.

When the bill came up for third reading, Graves, seconded by Rusk, who had taken the floor, moved that it be re-referred to the special committee on reapportionment for further consideration. Rusk argued that there was serious question if there was any need for redistricting the state into Congressional districts at this time since Congress had not finally agreed on the basis for the new representation.

Five Support Speaker.

Graves, Eaton, Abrams, Clyde and Eaton supported the Speaker in the motion to re-refer, which was opposed by Mahoney, McKinney, Thompson, Brooke and Fouts, who contended that the bill as favorably reported from the committee proposed the only natural subdivision of the state geographically and should be enacted in its present form. It was further pointed out that the redistricting of the state as proposed was not to become effective until Congress had supplied the basis of representation.

Thompson clinched the fight against re-reference when he said that if the bill should not be passed at this session, no provision would exist two years hence for election of three Congressmen from separate districts, with the result that Multnomah County would elect two of the Representatives while the third would be chosen from the state at large.

While it did not develop in the discussion, there was another reason why a re-reference of the bill was desired. Westerlund, representing Jackson, was desirous of having Jackson County included in the Second District under the proposed reapportionment, explaining that he wanted his county to be annexed to a district that accomplished things. He felt that the First Congressional District had not shown sufficient and satisfying speed in matters of National legislation to meet the wishes of his constituency.

Six Multnomahs Vote "Nay."

When the motion to re-refer had been defeated, the bill went to a vote without further discussion. Six members of the Multnomah County delegation voted against this bill which creates Multnomah into a separate Congressional District. They were: Amme, Bigelow, Clemens, Clyde, Collins and Cottel.

The detailed vote by which the bill passed follows:

Ayes—Abbott, Ambrose, Belknap, Belland, Bonebrake, Brooke, Bryant, Buckley, Chambers, Chapman, Chatten, Cole, Cushman, Fouts, Hollis, Johnson, Leinenweber, Mahoney, Mann, Mariner, McKinney, Miller (Columbia), Miller (Linn), Peirce, Peterson, Powell, Rackleff, Reynolds, Simpson, Smith, Sutton, Thompson and Tigard—33.

Nays—Abrams, Amme, Bigelow, Brownhill, Carter, Church, Clemens, Clyde, Collins, Cottel, Derby, Eaton, Graves, Gill, Huntington, Jones, Libby, Magone, Neuner, Shaw, Westerlund and Speaker Rusk—22.

8-HOUR BILL WAR BASE

MEASURE PASSING SENATE TO REACH HOUSE TODAY.

Proponents Win Special Order for Proposed Law and Spirited Debate Is Due.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Fight against Senator Dimick's eight-hour law will be transferred tomorrow to the House, where this measure has been made a special order for 10 o'clock. Taking its enemies by surprise, friends of the bill through Carter this morning were successful in having the special order made, although McKinney and others insisted that the bill should take its place on the calendar and come up in regular order.

The bill will come before the House with two reports from the committee on labor industries, which had it under consideration. The majority report, signed by Pierce and Clyde, recommends the passage of the bill, while Miller of Linn, chairman of the committee, opposes the bill in a minority report. The first skirmish will come with an effort to substitute the minority for the majority report. A partial poll of the House made today by Carter of the Clackamas County delegation, indicates that the result will be close with the chances favoring the passage of the measure.

This bill comes to the House unamended by the Senate, and requiring all manufacturing and mechanical plants operating 23 hours in a day to recognize an eight-hour schedule and furnish three shifts of employes. Consideration of the bill promises to consume considerable time and to involve a spirited debate. Powerful lobbies for and against the bill have been at the Capitol since the bill passed the Senate.

APPOINTIVE COMMISSION WINS

House Unanimously Favors Port of Portland Measure.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—With the Multnomah delegation in the House voting unitedly for the first time during the session, the House this afternoon, by a unanimous vote, passed Bigelow's bill providing for an appointive Port of Portland Commission.

This was the substitute bill reported by the delegation, following the compromise reached between the present Commission, through the Portland Chamber of Commerce, and those who have for some time been seeking the removal of the Commissioners now serving.

Salem Water Investigators Named.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—By a resolution adopted in the Senate today the holdover Senators of Marion and Linn Counties were named as a committee to investigate pure water sources in the two counties, leading up to a better supply for the state institutions. This committee is to report to the next Legislaure.

"House Bill 104" Provides Fund.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Famous "House bill 104" came before the Senate this afternoon, but not in the form in which it gained notoriety, the bill this year being for a biennial appropriation of $1500 for the Oregon Humane Society. The bill passed with small opposition.

SPEAKER OF HOUSE IN OREGON LEGISLATURE, WHO IS CREDITED WITH AMBITION TO GO TO CONGRESS.

JERRY RUSK, OF WALLOWA.

MAJORITY MUST DECIDE

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

House in Favor of Most of Voters Approving Law Changes Before They Are Made.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Following a lively debate, the House today adopted McKinney's joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution requiring a majority vote of the people to pass all constitutional amendments. The vote was 36 to 19.

At the same time the House refused to adopt another resolution by McKinney proposing a further constitutional amendment and requiring a majority vote on all initiative and referendum measures submitted to the people. This resolution originally had 31 votes, or the required number, but before the result was announced Collins of Multnomah changed his vote and the resolution failed with only 30 votes in its favor.

In support of his resolution, relating to constitutional amendments, McKinney urged such an amendment as a safeguard to the state's organic law, which, under the present system, can be changed so easily. Buchanan quoted figures showing that in the last general election constitutional amendments were adopted that received 16,000 less than a majority of the votes cast in the election.

Fouts opposed the resolution because, he said, it was an unauthorized move to interfere with the operation of the initiative and referendum.

Medical School Loses, Then Gains.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—After failing to pass this morning, the House this afternoon passed the bill by Ambrose appropriating $30,000 for maintenance and equipment of the University of Oregon Medical School in Portland. At the morning session, with 45 Representatives present, the bill received only 29 votes. There were 35 votes in its favor on the second ballot.

Overdrafts Not Felonies.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Senators today refused to place their stamp of approval on Bryant's House bill making it a felony for a person to draw a check or draft upon a bank in which such person has no funds. The vote stood 13 for the bill and 13 against it. Joseph urged passage of the bill, while other Senators expressed hesitancy at making an overdraft a felonious offense.